Excise doty exemption of paper

1048. SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJ-RAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred question No. 908 given in the Rajya Sabha on 13 th December, 1994 and state the decision, if any, Government have taken on the representation received from the Federation of Indian Publishers requesting for full exemption from excise duties on paper used by the publishers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): Government has since reduced the customs duty on paper and paperboard from 65 per cent to 40 per cent *ad valorem* with effect from 16-3-95. Further, paper containing mechanical wood pulp amounting to not less than 50 per cent, of the fibre content intended for use in the printing of taxtbooks or other books of general interest, is already exempt from excise duty.

Per capita income and expenditure

1049. SHRI JOYANTA ROY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the per capita income and expenditure is less than the national average in any State;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to reduce it; and

(c) the per capita income and expenditure of the States during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY Op FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Governments implement a number of programmes as part of their State Plans which have bearing on incre asing the investment and State Domestic Product and per capita income. The Central Government is also providing assistance for the implementation of plans as per formula which provides 'oi higher weightage in respect of populous States having low per capita income com. pared to the national average.

(c) State Governments prepare the estimates of Net State Domestic Product (State Income) but not the State domes tic expenditude. The enclosed Statement indicates per capita Net State Domestic Product of the State-j during the last five years 1989-90 to 1993-94.

Statement

Per Capita net state domestic product at current prices

(Figures in Rupees as on 8-30-95)

State/UT	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93 (P)	1993-94) (Q)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh	4054	4728	5556	5767	6489
Arunachal Pradesh	4467	5479	6524	7389	8172
Assam	3589	4014	4594	5056	—
Bihar	2301	2633	2799	3280	—
Goa	7505	8797	10693	11294	11658